

the public treasury in order to live, nor profit by the riches of the nation to the detriment of the people, that we unite as one man to make the laws respected and to terminate the infamies heaped upon us by the abuses of power. We do not need to resort to revolt to compel respect. In that way we would put ourselves outside of the law and would give our persecutors more cause for oppression. What we need is civic courage to protest a thousand and one times against the outrages committed upon us. We ask nothing unjust. I am persecuted without having done any crime and only because I combat, within law and order, the re-election of Gen. Diaz and Ramon Corral, believing it to be noxious to the true interests of my country. I am hated because I ask liberty for an enslaved people, and in the name of outraged public nobility I condemn the scandalous abuses, the crimes, that are committed from one end to the other of the Republic. My wife is jailed only because she is my wife. She is brutally torn from her home, leaving orphans my little children, the last of which is only two months old.

The case is evidently one of autocratic suppression of the press. Mr. Martinez's compositors have been imprisoned, so has the manager of his printing office, and so has the owner of a press on which one of his papers was printed. Are none of the large newspapers of this country or Great Britain public spirited enough to investigate the truth of these complaints of arbitrary power, and either satisfy the world that they are false or else hold the Mexican government up to the execration it deserves if they are true?

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Cannonism.

Speaker Cannon is clearly within his rights when he refuses to be a Jonah for the pluto-Republican ship. He is the truest representative the Republican party has as at present organized. It would be the same rotten hulk if he were overboard as it is now. The only effect of dumping him would be to fool the innocent men in the fore-castle. Having personified Republican rottenness as "Cannonism," they might think the rottenness had been sweetened if Cannon were sacrificed. But Cannon doesn't intend to be sacrificed. No whale's belly cot for him. He believes that he represents the dominant interests in the party, and he is right. Cannon is an effect, not a cause; a mere smell and not the putridity.

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Chicago School Board Affairs.

Otto C. Schneider, who was recently ousted by his own friends from the position of president of the Chicago school board (p. 707), has taken due advantage of his annual report to read a post-

mortem lecture to those whilom friends of his—some of it wholesome and some of it only resentful.

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On the subject of the Federation of Teachers, Mr. Schneider echoes the foolish argument that public school teachers ought not to be allowed to join labor unions, since some of their pupils are children of union and some of non-union parents. It would be as sensible to say that they ought not to join a political party, since some of their pupils are children of members of one party and some of another; or a church, since some of their pupils are children of Roman Catholics, some of Protestants and some of nonreligionists.

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When Mr. Schneider argues against "headless" school boards, he makes a plausible point in citing the case of the Potter Palmer estate which saddled a \$9,000 building lot upon the board for \$25,000 through orthodox "business methods." But the board was not "headless" when (with only two dissenting members) it allowed the Chicago Tribune to bunco it (vol. ix, p. 939; vol. xii, p. 409) into striking out ten year revaluation clauses from its 99-year ground lease, thereby giving it school land which is even now worth \$50,000 a year, for only \$30,000 a year and for 80 years to come. In fact, the board had a "head" at that time. Its head was the Tribune's own lawyer.

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And now there is complaint over the fact that a pugilist of celebrity has made speeches in one of the Chicago schools—not over the speeches, for they were proper enough, but over the fact that they were made by a pugilist. It is hardly clear why a professional fighter with the unsanguinary fist should be persona non grata in school rooms where the professional fighter with death dealing machines would be welcome. The distinction cannot be due to any repugnance to brutality, for on that score prize fighters might have the advantage.

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John Z. White in Western Canada.

At Winnipeg John Z. White appears from the local press to have scored as fine a success as he did at Minneapolis and St. Paul (pp. 1035, 1046) a few days before. Before the Royal Templars, in whose hall a large audience of influential people had assembled, he made an exposition of direct legislation with so much effect that the president of the Grain Growers' Company, a farmers' organization largely represented at the meeting, moved

the vote of thanks with an unqualified endorsement of the direct legislation movement. At a banquet tendered by some of the leading citizens of Winnipeg—lawyers, clergymen, doctors, business men and workmen, including members of Parliament—Mr. White explained the single tax problem, appealing with good feeling and truth to the men there of the English speaking race as one race with like institutions, "though artificially separated by absurd tariff regulations." During his stay in Winnipeg, he gave a public lecture on Henry George, and one on Free Trade; and besides addressing the Trades and Labor Council on public ownership of public utilities, he spoke on Sunday night from the pulpit of the Young Methodist Church. Local advices state that Mr. White has given a tremendous impetus to the democratic movement in Winnipeg. His present trans-continental tour appears thus far to be by long odds the most effective of any he has made, highly useful as all of them have been.

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The Police "Sweatbox."

In Cleveland the "sweating" (p. 1036) of prisoners by policemen has been stopped. "Golden Rule" Kohler, the chief of police of Cleveland, has given orders to his force that under no circumstances will they be allowed to use the "sweatbox," or resort to any other brutal treatment of prisoners. Prisoners must be "booked" as soon as they are locked up, and must be taken to court at the first session after their arrest. As all this is in strict compliance with the law, we may expect to hear Kohler denounced by pharisaical advocates of "law and order."

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AN IDEAL CHICAGO AND THE COST OF IT.

IV. Of the Fund Proposed for Meeting the Cost.

The method suggested in the third editorial of this series (p. 1036) for overcoming the only baffling obstacle in the way of realizing the Ideal Chicago of the Commercial Club's planning, may be presented in broad outline somewhat as follows:

First: The municipality of Chicago is about to adopt and execute plans for realizing an Ideal Chicago, whereby the ground rent value of most of the land within the contemplated area of this Ideal city will be increased in varying degrees, some more some less.

Second: To compensate for any destruction or depreciation of property interests thereby caused,

the municipality will pay the owners fair amounts for their loss.

Third: In order thus to compensate the land owners whose ground rent values are lessened by this reconstruction of the city, an exaction will be made of those land owners whose ground rent values are thereby increased; payable, however, from and in proportion to the actual increase as the same may be ascertained from time to time.

Fourth: In order to meet the other expenses of this municipal reconstruction, a further exaction will be made of those whose ground rent values are thereby increased, also payable only from and in proportion to the increase.

Fifth: Should any other property than land be increased in value by the proposed municipal reconstruction, a proportionate exaction will be made also of the owners of such property,—payable, as in the case of land, only from and in proportion to ascertained increases.

Details for executing this plan of providing for the cost of realizing the Ideal Chicago, depend upon only one consideration. Since this consideration is the same as that upon which the plan itself depends, the latter should receive attention first. To discuss details for executing an impossible plan would be a waste of space.

Our contention, then, is that it is well within the limits of reasonable probability that the consequent increase in Chicago land values in the next fifty years would, if the city were reconstructed in some such manner as is proposed, be enormously greater than the cost of the reconstruction.

How has it been with Chicago in the past fifty years, even without the tremendous impulse and sustaining power of the economic forces which the proposed idealization would generate and perpetuate and intensify?

From the history of the past we may fairly infer the future.

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A suggestive instance is afforded by a Wabash avenue transaction. During the present summer, Mandel Brothers completed the purchase of a Chicago site at the northwest corner of Wabash avenue and Madison street—70½ by 150 feet—by buying an outstanding one-fifth interest for \$150,000. As this was by court decree and for less than the tax valuation, the price could not have been excessive; and as it was for the land alone and for only a fifth interest, that little piece of land must be worth at least \$750,000. We get the facts from the Chicago Tribune of September 1, 1909. It appears from the same